

APPENDIX D

FIRE SUPPORT TASKS SUMMARY

Major Tasks

The tasks and subtasks in this appendix apply to all operations. The FSCoord or FSO at each level must either perform, coordinate, or assist, as required, in the accomplishment of each of the following tasks:

- Support forces in contact.
- Synchronize fires.
- Defeat high-payoff targets.
- Sustain.

Subtasks required to execute the four major tasks from corps level down to and including battalion level are discussed in the following paragraphs. Subtasks are sequential, generally forming a closed loop; therefore, they are not prioritized.

Support Forces In Contact**Description**

Provide fires in support of the close combat commander to ensure mission accomplishment and survivability of forces in contact.

Subtasks

Know and understand the commander's intent. To do this –

- Analyze the mission.
- Recommend priorities for fire support.
- Allocate direct support and reinforcing fires for FPFs and for attack of priority targets.
- Recommend positioning of target acquisition systems and weapon systems.
- Establish C3 interface.
- Determine ammunition requirements.

Establish fire support coordinating measures close, rear, and deep.

Respond to calls for fire as follows:

- Locate targets.
- Select appropriate delivery means for-
 - Close support.
 - Counterfires.
 - Suppression of enemy air defenses.
 - Interdiction.

Synchronize Fires**Description**

Coordinate the delivery of all indirect fires, optimize the selection of delivery systems, and maximize target effects.

Subtasks

Synchronize fire support with the maneuver concept.

Establish communications interfaces as follows:

- Provide all service interfaces.
- Provide unity of command and control.
- Determine critical targets as follows:
 - Determine Threat intent via IPB.
 - Determine high-value targets via TVA.
- Determine high-payoff targets; analyze mission and assets.
- Prioritize TVA target sets.

Establish target selection standards, To do this, you must –

- Know attack system requirements.

- Estimate Threat countermeasures capabilities.
- Know target activity profiles.
- Define target selection standards as follows:
 - State eligible target descriptions.
 - State target size requirements.
 - State battlefield location characteristics.
 - State dwell-time characteristics.
 - State situational requirements.
- Exchange information with intelligence and EW systems.

Position acquisition and attack assets as follows:

Ž Conduct terrain analysis.

Ž Examine vulnerabilities.

- Synchronize with the battle plan.
- Task-organize—
 - Target acquisition assets.
 - Weapon delivery systems.

Task sensors as follows:

Ž Assign high-payoff targets to sensors.

- Disseminate target selection standards.

Ž Integrate FA acquisition with intelligence acquisition systems. This includes the following tasks:

- Net sensors.
- Cue sensors.
- Incorporate electronic counter-countermeasures (ECCM).
- Acquire targets as follows:
 - Identify targets.
 - Locate targets.
 - Correlate data to meet target selection standards.
 - Nominate targets.
 - Transmit fire requests.

Establish fire support coordinating measures at corps, division, and brigade levels.

Assess effects as follows:

- Correlate target damage assessment with the target list.

Ž Estimate effects on Threat capabilities.

- Analyze impact on the battle plan.
- Reexamine targeting requirements.

Ž Interface with other services and critical combat service support (CCSS) nodes.

Defeat High-Payoff Targets

Description

Provide fires in support of the force commander's guidance for success of the battle plan.

Subtasks

Establish target attack criteria as follows:

- Establish desired target effects, which are:
 - Suppress.
 - Neutralize.
 - Destroy (percent destruction).
- Establish the following restrictions:
 - Accuracy.
 - Time since acquisition.
 - Required coordination.
 - Munition restrictions.
 - Whether observed or unobserved.

Ž Establish weapon-munition configurations as follows:

- Ammunition requirements.
- Weapon system configuration, especially close air support.

Acquire high-payoff targets as follows:

- Ensure that target selection standards are met.
- Nominate targets to the FS cell.
- Establish Firefinder call-for-fire zones (CFFZs) to prioritize sectors of search.

Process targets as follows:

- Receive nominated targets.
- Compare with fire support coordinating measures.
- Determine relative priority.
- Compare with attack criteria.
- Formulate decisions and/or orders as follows:
 - Coordinate with other command and control systems.
 - Select attack mode (for example, offensive electronic warfare, nuclear, chemical, or conventional).
 - Task attack system (for example, mortars, field artillery, offensive air support, naval gunfire, or EW assets).

Attack high-payoff targets as follows:

- Receive fire orders.
- Compare with attack criteria.
- Examine range to target.
- Determine system availability.
- Select aiming points, fire units, and volume of fire.
- Engage high-payoff targets.

Conduct target attack assessment as follows:

- Determine sensor availability.
- Task sensors.
- Determine attack results.
- Determine if attack criteria are met or exceeded.

Ž Refine target information.

- Provide feedback as follows:
 - Reattack targets as necessary.
 - Provide intelligence target information.

Sustain

Description

Provide the support essential to delivery of indirect fires, such as logistics, survey, and weather data.

Subtasks

Ensure survival of –

- Command, control, communications, and intelligence (C3I) assets.
- Personnel.
- Equipment.
- Support services.

Provide logistical support as follows:

Ž Predict requirements.

- Allocate to subordinate

Perform tactical movement.

Communicate. This includes the following tasks:

- Maintain command and control channels.

Ž Receive, process, and disseminate information.

Provide met support as follows:

- Process and disseminate FA met data.
- Determine low-level wind information.
- Determine target area met.

Provide survey support as follows:

- Establish location and directional control for the following:

- Target acquisition system.
- Target attack systems.
- Ž Know friendly force disposition.